

SERIAL NO: 09/888,972

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- b. forming said two or more flexible graphite sheets into a unitary article, wherein said article comprises directionally aligned graphene layers.
19. The method according to claim 18 wherein said forming said two or more flexible graphite sheets into said unitary article comprises forming a laminate of said two or more flexible graphite sheets and applying a sufficient amount of pressure to said laminate such that a density of said unitary article after said applying comprises more than a density of said laminate prior to said applying.
20. The method according to claim 19 wherein said applying comprises calendering said laminate.
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21. The method according to claim 18 wherein said forming said two or more flexible graphite sheets into said unitary article comprises applying pressure to said two or more sheets of flexible graphite.
22. The method according to claim 21 wherein said applying pressure to said two or more sheets of flexible graphite comprises calendering said sheets.
23. The method according to claim 21 wherein said applying pressure to said two or more sheets of flexible graphite comprises die pressing said sheets.
24. The method according to claim 21 wherein said applying pressure to said two or more sheets of flexible graphite comprises reciprocal platen pressing said sheets.
25. The method according to claim 18 wherein said forming of said plurality of natural graphite flakes into said two or more sheets of flexible graphite comprises treating said

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plurality of natural graphite flakes with an intercalant, thereby forming particles of intercalated graphite.

26. The method according to claim 25 wherein said forming said plurality of natural graphite flakes into said two or more sheets of flexible graphite comprises exfoliating said particles of intercalated graphite, thereby forming exfoliated graphite.

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27. The method according to claim 25 further comprising compressing said exfoliated graphite, thereby forming said two or more sheets of flexible graphite.

28. The method according to claim 18 further comprising resin treating at least one of said two or more sheets of flexible graphite.

29. The method according to claim 1 further comprising intercalating natural graphite flakes to form said flexible graphite sheets. - -